

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 5, 10-13, 18, 19 and 23 have been amended. Claims 3, 9, 16, 17 and 22 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-15, 18-21 and 23-38 are pending and under consideration.

CLAIM REJECTIONS 35 USC 103

Claims 1-8, 12-15, 19-21 and 29-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pirdy et al. (US 6,151,218) (hereinafter "Pirdy") in view of Edlund (US 5,660,065) (hereinafter "Edlund").

Claim 38 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pirdy in view of Edlund, and further in view of Myers (US 5,959,287) (hereinafter "Myers").

Pirdy discloses a physical security system for a portable computer. A docking unit 100 and portable computer 10 have a system for securing the computer to the unit. The docking unit has two latching elements 132, 134 in the docking bay 110. Latching elements 132, 134 allow the portable computer 10 to be latched on to the docking unit. Pirdy, 4:49-4:53 and Figure 4.

In Pirdy, lowering the portable computer 10 onto the docking bay causes the bottom wall of the portable computer, surrounding the right and left latching holes 22, 24 to engage latch release buttons 168, 170. This causes the latching elements 132, 134 to extend upward and toward the rear of the docking unit 100. The latching elements 132, 134 thus extend into the right and left latching holes 22, 24 of the portable computer 10 to securely hold the rear of the portable computer 10 against the docking unit 100 in the docking bay 110. This in combination with the engagement of the tabs 112, 114 at the front of the portable computer, retain the portable computer 10 securely in the docking bay 110. Pirdy, 4:54-4:67 and Figure 4

Edlund discusses a portable computer locking device. In Edlund a lock plunger 33 is controlled by an electric motor 40 that is able to rotate in both a clockwise and an anti-clockwise direction. The motor 40 is controlled by means of two signal lines 40a and 40b. Provided on the lower end 48 of the lock plunger are two recesses 41 and 42 which have flat, or planar, vertical surfaces. In the operational state of the lock plunger, one end 431 of a clapper 43 is inserted in

the recess 41. This end 431 has a flat vertical surface and co-acts with the flat vertical surface of the recess 41 in a manner to prevent rotation of the plunger. In order for the lock head to be able to rotate, it is necessary to remove the end 431 of the clapper from the recess. The other end 432 of the clapper is pivoted. Edlund, 4:16-4:28 and Figure 4.

Myers discusses an apparatus and method for supporting a cradle. In Myers, a key lock 56 may be deployed in conjunction with one or more electronic locking and unlocking mechanisms. In this case, the key lock 56 may serve primarily as a back-up locking and unlocking mechanism should the other locking and unlocking mechanisms fail. Myers, 7:24-7:28 and Figure 4.

Claims 1-8 and 12

Amended claim 1 recites: "...a light transmission/reception hole located in a predetermined area in the bottom plate of the portable terminal; a light transmission/reception port emitting light, wherein the light transmission/reception port is located on the cradle and positioned such that emitted light is reflected from the locking member through the light transmission/reception hole; and a reflection plate reflecting the light to the bottom surface of the locking member, wherein the reflection plate is located on the cradle, and when a predetermined amount of light reflected from the reflection plate is received in the light transmission/reception port, the rotary motor control signal is produced in the cradle control section based upon the amount of reflected light..." Support for this amendment may be found in at least original claim 3 and 9. In contrast to claim 1, as stated in the Office Action, neither Pirdy nor Edlund discusses a locking apparatus where when a predetermined amount of light reflected from the reflection plate is received in a light transmission/reception port, the rotary motor control signal is produced in the cradle control section based upon the amount of reflected light.

Claim 3 has been cancelled. Claims 2, 4-8 and 12 depend on claim 1 and are therefore believed to allowable for at least the foregoing reason.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection is requested.

Claims 13-15

Claim 13 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 16 and is therefore now believed to be allowable.

Claims 14 and 15 depend on claim 13 and are therefore believed to allowable for at least the foregoing reason.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection is requested.

Claims 19-21 and 29-38

Claim 19 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 22 and is therefore now believed to be allowable.

Claims 20, 21 and 29-38 depend on claim 19 and are therefore believed to allowable for at least the foregoing reason.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection is requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Applicant acknowledges with appreciation that claims 9-11, 16-18 and 22-28 have been found to contain allowable subject matter. The allowable subject matter of claims 9, 16 and 22 have been incorporated into their respective base claims. Claims 9, 16, 17 and 22 have been cancelled. It is respectfully submitted that claims 10, 11, 18 and 23-28 are allowable in their present form.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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